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Supply of water for the lands in Kongarappathu village, Gingee taluk.

* 266 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the sources of water for the wet lands in Kongarappathu village, Gingee taluk, South Arcot district;

(*b*) whether there is any sluice for the Sitheri tank in Kongarappathu; and

(*c*) whether the ryots of Kongarappathu ever used unauthorized pipes to get water for irrigation in Sitheri and were fined for it?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (*a*) Peria Eri and Sitheri in R.S. No. 67, Sir.

" (*b*) No Sir.

" (*c*) Yes Sir. About ten years back an unauthorized pipe was put up in the Sitheri by the ryots and the users of the unauthorized pipes were fined."

SRI V. GOPALA GOUNDER :—" Are the Government aware that the Sitheri tank is also being used by the ryots for irrigation purposes and has any provision been made for putting up sluices? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" I want notice, Sir."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" அந்த எரிக்கு மதகு கிடையாதாகையாலும் நீர்ப்பாசனத்திற்கு வேறு விதமான சாதனங்கள் இல்லாமலிருப்பதாலும், அந்த ஆயக்கட்டுக்கு என் நஞ்சை வரி வசூலிக்கவேண்டும் ? மதகுகளை வைப்பதற்கு அரசாங்கம் உடனே நடவடிக்கை எடுக்குமா ? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" If the hon. Member brings to my notice what exactly is the grievance, I will look into the matter."

Price of paddy in Malabar.

* 267 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government have received any representation and resolutions from public bodies and political and other organizations to fix the ceiling price of paddy in Malabar; and if so, what action has been taken?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. Consequently, the second part of the question does not arise."

Provision of parapet walls for certain wells in Gingee taluk.

* 268 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether several drinking water wells sunk by the Government in Gingee taluk are without parapet walls and are therefore in an insanitary condition?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" All the rural water-supply wells in Gingee taluk, which have been completed, have been

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provided with parapet walls in accordance with the type design approved by the Sanitary Engineer. In the case of eight wells which are still under execution in this taluk, the work has been done up to construction of staining up to ground level, and the construction of parapet walls, platform, etc., in these cases will be taken up after consolidation of the soil on the sides.''

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—'' Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to extend this kindness (of sinking drinking water wells) to my constituency (i.e.), Villupuram, Valavanur and Kandamangalam firkas? ''

MR. SPEAKER :—'' This is only a request.''

SRI V. GOPALA GOUNDER :—'' Are the Government aware that some of these wells are even now without water and will the Government take any action to sink them deep? ''

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—'' Such of those wells, which have no water, will be deepened.''

Supply of bad quality rice in Malabar.

* 269 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that *the rice supplied* from the ration shops at Kakkat, Thalap, Pannumbra, etc., under the Cannanore Producer-*cum*-Consumer Co-operative Society recently in July, August and September 1953, *is unfit for human consumption* containing a large percentage of powder, bran and insect-bitten stuff; and if so, what is the reason for the same?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' No Sir.''

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—'' May I know, Sir, whether the Government have taken a decision not to supply good rice to Malabar? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' We are supplying the best rice to Malabar.''

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—'' Is the Hon. Minister aware of two important circumstances (1) that there has been a widespread complaint from various parts of Malabar that the rice supplied is of very inferior quality, not fit for human consumption and (2) that almost with a vengeance only raw rice is supplied while the people are accustomed to eat boiled rice? ''

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' Sir, people are being carried away by the colour of the rice supplied. No doubt it is red, but, as I have already explained in reply to a question, red rice is not bad rice, not even inferior quality rice. Simply because the rice is red in colour, it should not be considered to be of inferior quality. With regard to the supply of raw and boiled rice, whatever we obtain by procurement we supply and if a certain amount of raw rice is also supplied in Malabar, it should not be a cause for complaint.''